

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 76, No. 48

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

OCTOBER 24, 2013

Election 2013

Candidates Respond to Questions In Second Round of Open Forums

by James Giese

Candidates for election to the Greenbelt City Council, to be held on November 5, gathered for their second candidates forum at the Greenbelt Municipal Building on October 15. This forum was sponsored by Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) with Steve Skolnik, vice president of the GHI board, serving as moderator.

All nine candidates were present, although Edward Putens and Silke Pope came a little late, having had to attend another function in the city. Except for a few critical remarks from two candidates of the current council, candidates spoke mostly about who they were and what they would like to achieve if elected.

Opening Statements

First-time candidate Susan Stewart, who is listed first on the ballot, led the first segment of the forum, which consisted of three-minute opening statements. Stewart said she seeks a greener environment for Greenbelt.

While she supports economic



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

The second candidates forum is held in the Municipal Building, sponsored by Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

development, she said, she would like to attract green businesses. She would also like to rejuvenate the city's commercial areas and make other areas more accessible and walkable. She supports the city's community gardens and believes they need

greater city support.

Completing his second two-year term on council, Emmett Jordan declared his three priorities as the need to set goals for community and

See FORUM, page 12

City Council Will Pursue State Funding for Sustainability Efforts

by Kathleen Gallagher

At its September 23 regular meeting, the Greenbelt City Council acted on two items which commit the city to sustainability and energy efficiency measures which will also make Greenbelt eligible for state grant funding. Facing an October 2 deadline, council suspended rules requiring separate readings at two meetings and adopted a resolution requesting designation of Greenbelt as a "Sustainable Community" by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). In addition, council approved the adoption of two energy-related policies as a requirement of accepting a grant from the Maryland Energy Administration.

Sustainable Community

Assistant Planning Director Terri Hruby hastened to explain that despite the similarity of names, the Sustainable Community designation under discussion was unrelated to the Sustainable Maryland status on which council has been working with the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (GreenACES).

Hruby apologized for the last-minute application, which she said was a result of staff confronting too many deadline-driven tasks in

too short a time. She stressed, however, that the application and plan drafted by staff are based upon projects and processes that already have received significant public and council input.

The state General Assembly established the Sustainable Community designation as a result of the Sustainable Communities Act of 2010. That law consolidated previous DHCD-designated Community Legacy Areas and gave those areas an interim Sustainable Communities designation.

Since Greenbelt's existing Community Legacy (CL) designation expires on December 31, the city needed to submit a new application and action plan to be sure of continued eligibility for state revitalization funding.

Designating the entire city as a Sustainable Community is consistent with Greenbelt's CL designation. The application and action plan proposed by staff incorporate prior CL activities, council's vision and goals developed from the 2012 visioning sessions and strategies contained in the Adopted Greenbelt Metro Area and MD 193 Corridor Plan. They also incorporate such recent initiatives as the Pedestrian and Bicyclist Plan, Bus Stop Safety and Accessibility Plan,

GreenACES sustainability plan and the current fiscal year budget.

Hruby explained that although the application draft has to be submitted promptly to meet the deadline, the work program can be amended to reflect the wishes of council. She recommended that council schedule a worksession to discuss the plan and any desired modifications.

Mayor Judith Davis agreed and encouraged councilmembers to hold discussion of anything other than major concerns for that worksession. Both she and Councilmember Konrad Herling said they were impressed with the plan as drafted by staff.

Energy Efficiency Policies

Council also approved adoption of two policies on improving energy efficiency: both are required as a condition of a grant agreement approved by council between the city and the Maryland Energy Administration as part of the Maryland Smart Energy Communities (MSEC) program. The city was awarded \$63,935 for use during the current fiscal year for energy-related projects.

The two areas selected by the city for the grant activity are for improving energy efficiency, which the funder defines in terms

See STATE FUNDS, page 9

Election 2013

Answers to Our Question

This year, the Greenbelt News Review poses one question to all candidates for election to the Greenbelt City Council and asks that candidates provide their answers in writing to the News Review no later than Monday, October 7 for publication in an October issue of the News Review. Each week answers from three candidates will be published in the order received. Answers are limited to 500 words or less.

Question: If elected to the Greenbelt City Council what will be your three most important objectives to be accomplished during your term in office and how do you expect to succeed in accomplishing each objective?

Judith Davis

1. Greenbelt's aging infrastructure needs to be addressed – it can no longer be fixed with band-aid temporary repairs. Delaying work on Greenbelt Lake and its dam, the movie theater, roads and other major projects will result in greater cost when they are finally completed or when opportunities are lost to invest now in equipment and technology that perform more efficiently. Our parks, street trees, forest and streams require appropriate maintenance to meet changes in climate and stricter environmental, health and recreational standards. Cities save money by preventing infrastructure deterioration. It is no longer

a question of why, but of how and when. What is needed are sustainable solutions and adequate funding. I will continue to alert staff to possible grants and public-private partnerships, as well as advocate for more assistance from the County and State in providing funds for high-cost items. As I have done every budget season, I will pay close attention to where scarce revenue is allocated. I will also bring back innovative ideas and practical solutions from conferences and workshops.

2. Greenbelt must attract quality businesses to fill vacancies in our office buildings

See QUESTION, page 6

Better Directional Signs Urged for Police and Fire

by Diane Oberg

In addition to discussions of illegal rentals and Greenbriar Stream Restoration, reported separately, the Greenbelt City Council at its October 14 regular meeting received reports calling for increased signage for the police and fire stations and reviewing the sign plan for Franklin Park at Greenbelt Station, approved the city election questionnaire and set the number and pay for election judges and clerks.

Signs

Signage was the theme of two committee reports accepted by council without discussion.

In the Public Safety Advisory Committee's Police Signage

Report, the committee agreed with the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee that there is not adequate signage to ensure the police station is easily visible and easy to locate. The committee also found a need for more signage for the firehouse.

The committee suggested placing new signs at seven locations: east- and westbound Greenbelt Road at Southway, north-and southbound Kenilworth Avenue at Crescent, inbound Southway at Crescent, inbound Crescent at Ridge (police only) and inbound Crescent after Ridge (fire department only).

See SIGNS, page 10

What Goes On

Thursday, October 24 through Friday, November 1
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Tuesdays till 8 p.m.), Early Voting, Municipal Building

Friday, October 25

4:30 p.m. sharp, Costume Contest and Parade, in front of CURVES (Registration is from 4 to 4:30 p.m.)

Saturday, October 26

9 a.m. to noon, Electronics Recycling, Public Works Yard, 555 Crescent Road

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Early Voting, Springhill Lake Recreation Center

Sunday, October 27

11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Early Voting, Springhill Lake Recreation Center

Monday, October 28

8 p.m., Council Meeting, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at www.greenbeltdmd.gov

Letters to the Editor

Antithesis of Change?

How did Greenbelt politics come to be the antithesis of change?

In a long slide from tragedy to farce, our municipal elections have a now-normal turnout of less than 1 in every 6 (!) registered voters. As someone has noted, in 2011 that was a sub-15 percent turnout (even with early and absentee voting options).

Source: <http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/73>

In the first 15 years of Greenbelt's history, the city had five different mayors. In the last 15 years, Greenbelt has had only one.

Source: <http://politicalgraveyard.com/geo/MD/ofc/greenbelt.html>

In 1937, there were 17 candidates for five City Council seats; this year we have one serious challenger and one perennial chasing seven incumbents.

Source: <http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2087>

Perhaps that's all because most would-be candidates (and 85 percent of voters) realize the folly of challenging sitting members; an elected municipal official has not lost a re-election bid in Greenbelt since at least as far back as the 1980s! Not one challenger has dislodged an elected incumbent since then, I'm told. So Greenbelt is fast approaching three straight decades of retreads.

Notice

This week, October 24, is the last issue for anyone to write a story or letter to the editor that for the first time broaches a new issue concerning the city council election. This is to give everyone an opportunity to present the other side before the election.

It is our policy not to permit an attack on any individual to be published in this newspaper whether in an article, a letter to the editor or a paid advertisement.

ST. HUGH'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

9AM-2PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

9AM-1PM

SHOP WELL • EAT WELL • LEAVE HAPPY

CRAFTS

VENDORS

PLANTS

DOOR PRIZES

RELIGIOUS ITEMS

FOOD, FUN & MORE

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE



ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH • 135 CRESCENT RD • GREENBELT MD

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE
WEEK OF OCT 25

WADJDA
(PG)

FRIDAY
*5:20, 7:30, 9:30

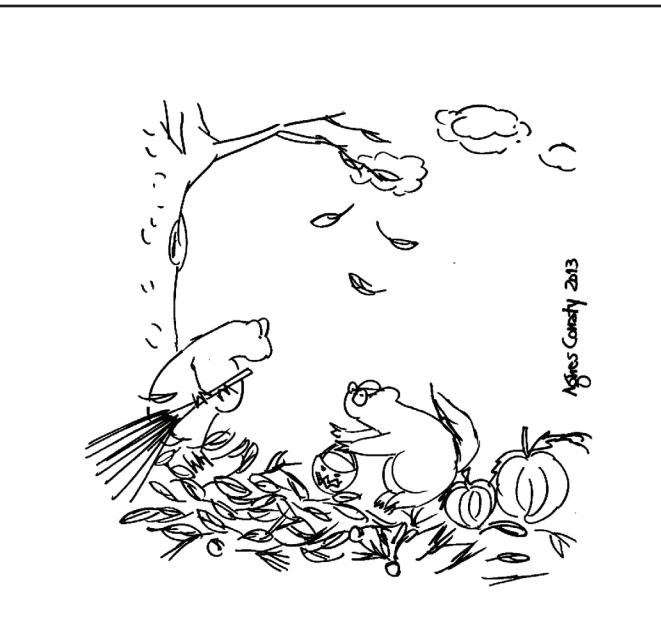
SATURDAY
*3:15, *5:20, 7:30, 9:30

SUNDAY
*3:15, *5:20, 7:30

MONDAY – THURSDAY
*5:20, 7:30

*These shows at \$6.50
Tuesday is Bargain Day.
All Seats Only \$5.00.
Now accepting Visa, Discover and MasterCard for tickets and concessions
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pandgtheatres.com

Grin Belt



"I'm doing my trick or treating days in advance as a quality control taste tester."

On Screen Getting Wheels in Ryadh

"Wadjda" – an acclaimed feature film from Saudi Arabia – opens at Old Greenbelt Theatre on Friday, October 25. The 10-year-old namesake girl sets her sights on buying a particular green bicycle and outracing young Abdullah in her neighborhood of the country's capital city. But how can she get the bike in the first place? Wadjda has to battle tradition and her family plus come up with enough money. Key to her campaign is a reading contest in school.

Running time: 98 minutes. PG.

– Eli Flam

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Franklin Park: Arlene Clarke 301-474-1526

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Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Marat Moore, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg and Altoria Bell Ross

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Community Events

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for October 22 through 31 are as follows:

Monday – Fruit punch, potato-crusted fish, tartar sauce, cheesy rice, spinach, fresh orange.

Tuesday – Apple juice, corn chowder, seafood salad, mixed green salad, fresh fruit.

Wednesday – Orange juice, baked potato with sour cream, diced turkey and shredded cheese, mixed green salad, fresh fruit.

Thursday – Orange juice, Philly cheesesteak, tater tots, coleslaw, hot spiced fruit, orange frosted chocolate cake.

November menus were not received by press time.

At the Library

Storytime

On Thursdays, a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props. Pick up a free ticket from the information desk before the session.

Thursday, October 31, 10:30 a.m. Drop-in Storytime for ages 2 to 5 years mixes stories with fun activities including songs, rhymes and fingerplays. Babies are also welcome. The usual 20-person room limit applies.

Adult Programs

Tuesday, October 29 at 7 p.m., the African History Culture and Lecture Series continues with C.R. Gibbs' presentation "Benjamin Banneker, Surveyor and the African Roots of His Science."

For more information call 301-345-5800, visit the library or visit pgcmls.info. For automated phone renewal call 301-333-3111.

GHI Notes

Thursday, October 24, 6:45 p.m., Investment Committee Meeting – Board Room

7:30 p.m., Finance Committee Meeting – Board Room

Friday, October 25, Office Closed – For emergency maintenance call 301-474-6011.

Monday, October 28, 7 p.m., Communications Committee Meeting – GHI Lobby

7 p.m., Board of Directors Executive Session – Board Room

Saturday, November 2, 11 a.m., Pre-purchase Orientation – Board Room

Note: Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.



Library Board to Hold Open Meeting Here

On Saturday, November 2 from 9 a.m. to noon, the Prince George's County Memorial Library System Board of Library Trustees will hold an open worksession at the Greenbelt branch library. The meeting, in lieu of its regularly scheduled meeting for November, is open to the public.

The trustees determine library policy related to types of services, personnel, regulations, budgetary controls and all phases of library operations. No official actions will be taken during the session.

Topics for discussion will include development and fundraising, the Fiscal Year 2015 budget, a debriefing on the trustees' August board retreat, committee charters and meeting schedules.

Cadillac Antique Car Show Here

On Sunday, October 27 antique and classic Cadillacs will be displayed at the free annual Fall Cadillac and LaSalle Show at Capitol Cadillac Company, 6500 Capitol Drive. The show theme will be Colossal Convertibles. The show begins at 10 a.m., with awards presented at 3 p.m. Approximately 80 cars will be on display both inside and out, rain or shine.

For details call Dan Ruby at 301-894-8026.

St. Hugh's Holiday Bazaar Nov. 2-3

Next Saturday and Sunday, November 2 and 3 the annual St. Hugh's Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be vendors, crafts, a bake sale, plants, religious items, door prizes and more. St. Hugh's own Father R. Scott Hurd, author of recently-published "When Faith Feels Fragile" will sign and sell his books. Greenbelt Writers Group member Peggy Rooney, author of several books including newest "The Tree House," will sign her books, also available for sale.

On Sunday, Santa and Mrs. Claus will stop by for a visit.

St. Hugh's is at 135 Crescent Road. See ad on page 2.

Neighborhood Watch Meets on Safety

The Old Greenbelt Neighborhood Watch Group is hosting a Personal Safety Presentation on Tuesday, October 29 at 7 p.m. in the multipurpose room at the Greenbelt Police Station, 550 Crescent Road.

For details call George Mathews at 240-542-2116.



Greenbelt Cooperative Alliance Celebrate Co-op Month 2013 in Greenbelt

Oct. 27 10 am-2 pm: – Greenbelt Cooperative Alliance Booth at Farmers Market

Oct. 30 5-7 pm: Wine Tasting, Alsatian cooperative vineyards, Greenbelt Co-op

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Age Club has been busy and has accomplished some good things. Our Yard Sale/Bake Sale was a success and we now have a new, large cabinet for our supplies at the Community Center. Many thanks to everyone who worked to make these projects happen.

The speaker on October 30 will be Robbie Deffinbaugh, who will tell us about the training of the dogs for the K-9 corps and their duties.

We send our condolences to our President Cathie Brannan on the death of her husband Pat and to the members of the Brannan family. He will be missed by the Club. We all give our love and support to Cathie at this sad time.

Remember to go and vote in the Greenbelt elections.

GAIL to Help Review Medicare D Plans

This year's open enrollment season for Medicare Part D Plans began October 15 and will continue to Saturday, December 7.

There have been several important changes to Part D plans including changed deductibles and formularies. It is important to review one's plan – it can take 20 or so minutes but could save thousands of dollars. The Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) program is now scheduling appointments for Greenbelt residents to help them review their Medicare Part D plans.

To schedule an appointment call 301-345-6660, ext. 2012.

Arts Advisory Board To Meet on Nov. 5

The Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, November 5 (Election Day) at 7 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

For additional information contact Staff Liaison Nicole DeWald by email at ndewald@greenbeltdmd.gov or at 240-542-2057.

Toastmasters to Meet On Wed., October 30

The next meeting of the Greenbelt Toastmasters Club will be on Wednesday, October 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall of Greenbelt Community Church at Hillside and Crescent Roads.

Toastmasters offers professionals, students, stay-at-home parents and retirees a supportive environment to improve skills in communication and leadership. Members learn to lose the fear of public speaking, become better listeners and build skills for success.

Tickets Still Available For Empty Bowls

There are tickets still available for this year's Empty Bowls, which will be on Saturday, October 26 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Greenbelt Community Church.

Attendees are treated to bowls hand made by The Greenbelt Potters and soups that will be available for the tasting. All proceeds of the event go to Help-By-Phone, a nonprofit whose volunteers run eight food pantries in the county and will also manage the Safehaven shelter for men starting December 1.

Empty Bowls attendees are also encouraged to bring canned goods for the pantries.

For tickets call Marsha at 301-345-7631 or Kathy at 301-474-4372.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Greenbelt Dances At Artful Afternoon

As part of the November Artful Afternoon the Alight Dance Theater will kick off their season of artistic works in development. Performances will be on Sunday, November 3 from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd. Tickets are free.

ACADEMY STADIUM THEATRE

6198 GREENBELT ROAD

CENTER COURT OF BELTWAY PLAZA

301-220-1155

www.academy8theaters.com

Most features are \$5.00

all day on Tuesdays; add \$2.00 for 3-D

R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

WEEK OF OCT 25

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, TUESDAY

Jack Ass: Bad Grandpa, R (!)

11:55, 2:15, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40

The Counselor, R (!)

11:15, 1:50, 4:25, 7, 9:45

Escape Plan, R (!)

11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20, 10

Carrie, R (!)

11:40, 2:05, 4:30, 7:30, 10

Captain Phillips, PG-13

11:55, 3:35, 6:45, 9:35

Gravity, in 2D, PG-13

11:50

Gravity in 3D, PG-13

2:10, 4:35, 6:50, 9

Baggage Claim, PG-13

11:45, 2, 4:40, 7:20, 9:45

Cloudy With the Chance of Meatballs 2, PG

11:35, 1:50, 4:35, 6:55, 9:20

Trick-or-treating

on

All Hallow's Eve?

Stop by 36J Ridge Rd.

for a delightful scare . . .

if you dare . . .

BWAA-HAA-HAA-HAAA!!!

6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Thursday

SUNDAY, MONDAY, WEDNESDAY

Jack Ass: Bad Grandpa, R (!)

11:55, 2:15, 4:50, 7:10

The Counselor, R (!)

11:15, 1:50, 4:25, 7

Escape Plan, R (!)

11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20

Carrie, R (!)

11:40, 2:05, 4:30, 7:30

Captain Phillips, PG-13

11:55, 3:35, 6:45

Gravity, in 2D, PG-13

11:50

Gravity in 3D, PG-13

2:10, 4:35, 6:50

Baggage Claim, PG-13

11:45, 2, 4:40, 7:20

Cloudy With the Chance of Meatballs 2, PG

11:35, 1:50, 4:35, 6:55

THURSDAY

Jack Ass: Bad Grandpa, R (!)

11:55, 2:15, 4:50, 7:10

The Counselor, R 11:15, 1:50,

4:25, 7

Escape Plan, R (!)

11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20

Carrie, R (!)

11:40, 2:05, 4:30, 7:30

Captain Phillips, PG-13

11:55, 3:35, 6:45

Gravity, in 2D, PG-13

11:50

Gravity in 3D, PG-13

2:10, 4:35, 6:50

Baggage Claim, PG-13

11:45, 2, 4:40, 7:20

Cloudy With the Chance of Meatballs 2, PG

11:35, 1:50, 4:35

Obituaries

Bob Hogan

Robert (Bob) Glenn Hogan, 69, died July 3, 2013, at his home outside Atlanta, Ga., after a long battle with cancer.

Mr. Hogan was born in Chicago on May 26, 1944. The family moved from Chicago to Greenbelt and lived on Laurel Hill Road, 7 court Ridge Road and then 7 court Crescent Road. He grew up in Greenbelt, attended Greenbelt Center School, Greenbelt Junior High School and graduated from High Point High School in 1962. Mr. Hogan's parents, Walter T. and Nina Hogan, lived at the 7 Crescent address until their deaths in the mid-1980s, when the home was sold.

Mr. Hogan played both Little League and Babe Ruth baseball as a Greenbelt boy. He was a "pin boy" at the bowling alley and a life guard at the swimming pool in the summers of 1961 and 62. He played softball at Braden Field when he was in his late teens. He loved to dance and would go to the old "Drop In" to hear his favorite rock-n-roll numbers and dance. Entering the Labor Day Dance Contest several times, he won first place when he was 17. He also appeared on American Bandstand.

Mr. Hogan was a data systems manager for most of his career. He was known as an entertaining person to be around.

He is survived by his wife Tracy, sons Bob and Kyle Hogan, two grandchildren, brother Wes Hogan of Florida and sister Debi Murray of Surfside Beach, S.C.

A private burial service was held on July 6.



**Catholic
Community
of Greenbelt**

MASS
Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Lane, Pa.

Rev. Jones was predeceased by his second wife Margie Jones, who died April 18, 2002.

He is survived by two children, James Kidwell and Kay Allen Hoech, children of his second wife; brother Robert T. Jones of Roanoke, Va.; four nieces, three grandsons and granddaughter Lori Calvert.

A service was held Wednesday, October 23 at the First Assembly of God Lifehouse Church in Laurel.

Contributions may be sent in Rev. Jones' name to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601.



You must be free from prejudice and fanaticism, beholding no differences between the races and religions. You must look to God, for He is the real Shepherd, and all humanity are His sheep. He loves them and loves them equally. (Abdu'l-Baha)

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.info@gmail.com www.bahai.us

St. George's Episcopal Church

Join us around a table where all are welcome!

Services

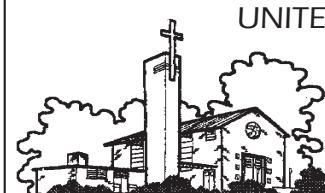
- Sundays
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)
10 a.m. main service
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)
- Wednesdays
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org



Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltcmmunitychurch.org

Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.

Clara Young, Interim Pastor

BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Rev. Mary Pullen - Pastor
301-474-7573
6301 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740



Worship : Sun 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Child Care Available)
Office Hours : Mon, Thu, Fri 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Tue, Wed 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

Beltway Plaza Offers Pumpkin Fun Sat.

On Saturday, October 26 from noon to 2 p.m. there will be several seasonal pumpkin-themed events at Beltway Plaza's West Court to entertain shoppers and community members.

There will be a pumpkin toss, with people tossing the pumpkin at a target – get it in the hole to win. All are invited to bring their creativity to decorate pumpkins in the Pumpkin Decorating Contest. The scariest and the cutest pumpkins will win prizes, with the person decorating the pumpkin getting to keep it. Pumpkin supplies are limited.

There is a huge pumpkin on display, with a competition to guess its weight. The person guessing closest to its actual weight wins.

There will also be prizes of gift cards and other items. Everyone is invited to stop at the Security Office Saturday to pick up a pre-Halloween safety item while supplies last.

Cookies at the Bridge Seeking Volunteers

The Cookies at the Bridge project, which has adult volunteers meet youngsters getting out of school and returning home from Eleanor Roosevelt High School across the Spellman Overpass between 3:30 and 3:45 p.m. after school, is seeking volunteers to meet, smile and hand out cookies.

The project, spearheaded by Mowatt United Methodist Church, has friendly adult presence near the bridge as a deterrent to bullying and other violence. A large commitment of time is not required.

Those interested in helping one afternoon a week or serving on an on-call basis are asked to call 301-474-9410 to leave their name and phone number for a return call.

UM Bands to Present Free Family Concert

The University of Maryland Band and the Maryland Community Band will share an evening of traditional and contemporary wind band music in a free concert on Wednesday, October 30 at 8 p.m. in the Dekelboum Concert Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

This concert is designed to be an exciting evening for the whole family. Children and adults who are thinking of learning to play an instrument are especially encouraged to come.

Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, visit claricesmithcenter.umd.edu or call 301-405-2787.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor



Worship Service 10 a.m.



Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield



Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM

Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist

Greenbelt Baptist Church

101 Greenhill Road Greenbelt, MD 20770

(301) 474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org

11:00am Worship Service

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Christianity and...Series

begins November 13th

at 7:30pm with

"Christianity and...The ARTS"

October 27th

Guest Speaker:

Jonathan Leeman

November 3rd

"The Priority of the Gospel"

Philippians 1:12-18

Organ Concert

at St. Andrews Episcopal Church

Sunday – Oct. 27 at 4 pm

Dr. Richard L. Elliott, FAGO is Principal Organist at Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City

4512 College Avenue • College Park, MD 20740

Free will offering

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi

Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

Sunday, October 27 at 10 a.m.

Rev. Diane Teichert with Criss Kovac and Polly Pettit; with Carol Boston, Worship Associate and Special Music by Keith Miller, Pianist We will honor Samhain as the service begins and, for the sermon, join a film preservationist and a film researcher, both PBUUC members, in an exploration of the ways that moving images shape our experience of history, our identity and our legacy.

It is Signing Sunday for those who are ready to sign the PBUUC Membership Book; meet the Minister and Board member at the chalice after the service.

Starting during Coffee Hour, a Fall Fest for one and all is hosted by the Religious Exploration Committee.





City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, October 28, 2013 - 8:00 p.m.
Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- American Legion Post #136 – Veterans Day Program
- America Recycles Month Proclamation
- Oath of Office – New Greenbelt Police Officer

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

Minutes of Council Meetings

Administrative Reports

Council Reports

Committee Reports

- Community Relations Advisory Board, Report #2013-2 (Council Referral – John Abell Petition re. Child Pornography)

LEGISLATION

- A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of a Mobile Tag Reader with Installation from ELSAG North America in the Amount of \$18,150 - 2nd Reading, Adoption
- A Resolution to Repeal Resolution 706 to Update the Charter of the Advisory Committee on Trees - 1st Reading
- A Resolution to Designate the City of Greenbelt as a Healthy Eating Active Living City - 1st Reading
- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Removal of an Underground Fuel Tank at the Police Station and Replacement of an Above Ground Fuel Tank at Public Works from Capitol Petroleum Equipment Inc. at a Cost of \$132,974 - 1st Reading

OTHER BUSINESS

- Award of Purchase – Public Works Truck
- Advisory Planning Board, Report #2013-05 (Detailed Site Plan for Franklin Park at Greenbelt Station Sign Plan)
- Maryland Department of Transportation's Consolidated Transportation Program
- Greenbelt Green Team – Sustainable Maryland Certification
- Other Reports
- *Amendment to the Code of Personnel and Administrative Regulations (COPAR)
- *Appointment to Advisory Group
- *Reappointment to Advisory Group
- *Resignation from Advisory Group

MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltdmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

Any registered Greenbelt voter may choose to vote by Early Voting or Absentee Voting!
NO MORE EXCUSES!

EARLY VOTING: Any qualified voter of the City of Greenbelt may choose to vote by EARLY VOTING.



EARLY VOTING DATES AND LOCATIONS

Springhill Lake Recreation Center

6101 Cherrywood Lane

Saturday, October 26th, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and Sunday, October 27th, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

Mondays – Fridays

October 21st – November 1st, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Tuesdays until 8:00 pm

ABSENTEE VOTING: Any qualified voter of the City of Greenbelt may choose to vote by absentee ballot. Applications to receive absentee ballots are available in the City Clerk's Office and online at www.greenbeltdmd.gov.

Applications to receive absentee ballots must be received by noon on Monday, November 4, 2013. The completed ballot must be received by the City Clerk no later than 6 p.m. the day of the regular election, November 5, 2013. No absentee ballots will be distributed prior to October 16.

Return your executed absentee ballot by 1) sending it through the U.S. mail in time to arrive by November 5, 2) hand-delivering it to the City Clerk's office, or 3) placing it in the locked drop-box at the east door of the Municipal Building at 25 Crescent Road.

Questions? Call the City Clerk at 301-474-8000, or send email to cmurray@greenbeltdmd.gov.

Fit 'N'Fun Cardio

M/W/F from 10-11:15am at Community Center
Dance, Boot Camp, Weights and Floor Work
Drop-In Available. To register call 301-397-2208

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26TH

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Public Works Yard, 555 Crescent Rd

City residents can recycle old and/or unwanted computers and other electronic items.

Accepted items include: TVs, CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptop computers, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, wires and power cords, fax machines, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, batteries taped on one end, expanded polystyrene (block "Styrofoam" #6) – NO cups, egg-cartons, nor food trays.

PLEASE CALL IN ADVANCE IF YOU WANT TO DROP-OFF MORE THAN 10 ITEMS OR ITEMS OVER 50 LBS.

For more info: 240-542-2153.

City of Greenbelt Recreation Department

COSTUME CONTEST & PARADE

Friday, October 25

Starts at 4:30pm Sharp

Roosevelt Center-Centerway

FREE-Registration will be from 4-4:30pm on the grassy area in front of Curves. All ages are encouraged to come dressed in their creative costumes. Prizes will be awarded to the best costumes for infants through 6th grade. Best Family and Pet costumes. Variety show and light refreshments after the parade.



RECYCLE RIGHT CONTEST

"WIN WITH YOUR BIN"



You can win prizes by properly preparing your residential recycling bin during the next couple of weeks (Oct 21 to Nov 1). Five winners will be selected: one winner from each of the four City Recycling Collection Routes and one winner from a Contractual Recycling Collection Route.

Make sure you have clean, properly prepared recyclables set out on your collection day! Check out our website to see what goes in your bin: <http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/560> Part of the AMERICA RECYCLES DAY Celebration. America Recycles Day is on November 15. This event is sponsored by the City of Greenbelt and the Metropolitan Council of Governments.

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 21-25

Monday, October 28 at 7:30pm, SENIOR CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE room 111 at the Greenbelt Community Center.

Monday, October 28 at 8:00pm, CITY COUNCIL MEETING at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verison 21, Comcast 71 and www.greenbeltdmd.gov.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

Notice of Unclaimed Funds

The City of Greenbelt is holding \$1,828 collected by a group which existed approximately ten years ago called the Friends of the Greenbelt Theatre. It is believed this group is no longer active. If any member of the original Friends of the Greenbelt Theatre group wants to make claim to these funds, please contact

Michael McLaughlin, City Manager, at 301-474-8000 or mmclaughlin@greenbeltdmd.gov.

If no one comes forward by November 8, 2013, the City plans to make these funds available to a new group which has an interest in establishing a non-profit to operate the theater. The funds would assist the new group with grants seeking.

Greenbelt CityLink www.greenbeltdmd.gov

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, and Youth Advisory Committee. For information call 301-474-8000.

FREE FLU SHOT CLINIC



It's Time to Drop In For A FREE Flu Shot!

Monday, October 28
Springhill Lake Recreation Center
6101 Cherrywood Lane from 1 to 7 p.m.

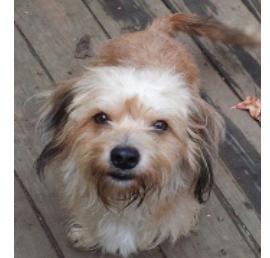
*No Appointment Needed. Both intranasal (FluMist®) and injectable (shot) vaccine will be offered. Under 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Request for Proposal Consultant Services for Police Promotional Process

The City of Greenbelt is requesting proposals for consultant services for the purpose of developing and validating a fair and valid promotional program. A Request for Proposal can be downloaded from www.greenbeltdmd.gov, or can be obtained by contacting the Personnel Office at 301-345-7203.

HAVE YOU VISITED THE GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER LATELY?

550-A Crescent Road



(behind Police Station)

Give us a call
301-474-6124
Come out and visit all of our available pets!

The shelter is open on Wednesdays from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment. See all our pets on Facebook!

QUESTION continued from page 1

and shopping centers; existing businesses must be retained if they provide jobs and necessary services. This will require greater attention to economic development by Council and staff. I would support having a city position, as other cities have done, that specifically promotes our City's assets, coordinates efforts to market Greenbelt to our advantage and works with the County's Economic Development Corporation. A more viable commercial and retail base will add much-needed tax dollars. Council and staff must interact with our business community beyond an annual breakfast. Businesses, both large and small, are a vital component to the fabric of our City. Council must recognize the importance of businesses by more visible means, such as instituting an Outstanding Business Award, to highlight those businesses that are impacting our community in positive ways.

3. We are one City with many unique and diverse neighborhoods, but not all of our citizens are aware of what our City offers nor do they always have the means to get to our many amenities and services. Connectivity and communication must continue to be enhanced throughout Greenbelt. Council and staff have already done a great deal to address this issue, but even more must be done to ensure that city services and programs are equitable and accessible. Transportation within and to all parts of our City is key – it must be dependable, safe and available every day. We can no longer rely on older forms of communication to get our message out – we must also utilize newer forms of social media and technology. Another approach is to provide expanded facilities and services in Greenbelt East and West. Since 1993, my campaign slogan has been

"Committed to Community." I remain determined to remove barriers that prevent full participation by all our citizens in all aspects of Greenbelt life.

Emmett Jordan

Defining economic development goals, streamlining operations, and enhancing citizen involvement are my top objectives.

To move toward the future we want, we need clear plans. We must pursue beneficial activities in order to thrive in Greenbelt. While College Park, Hyattsville and Riverdale Park are transforming, change is slow to come here. I will continue to push for focused planning and better follow-through to achieve the community and economic development goals shared between citizens, local businesses, and our neighbors.

We must do more than rely on the County or State to steer our progress. In order to remain true to community values like open space preservation, sustainability, and smart growth, we need to expand our tax base so that we can afford to make those choices.

I believe that home values are becoming more dependent on access to transportation and other economic factors. In recent times, Council has focused on quality of life issues, and not on the other forces that shape the community. If we want Greenbelt to be a desirable and affordable place to live, we need to commit the time, thought, and effort to realize those goals.

Last year, I helped to initiate an "organizational assessment" study to look at the structure of city departments and the job functions of staff. Its recommendations should lead to common-sense decisions to streamline city operations and cut costs.

Many senior staff and several department heads will likely retire in the next 4 to 10 years. As

these changes occur, there will be opportunities to organize more efficiently and save resources, without cutting services.

Balancing the City's long-term needs, managing debt and moderating taxes are inter-related. Although taxes here are higher than many places in Maryland they help pay for services that make Greenbelt special. I will be working to see that these services are delivered in the most cost-effective way. Increasing efficiency and growing the tax base are the best solutions for relieving the burden of taxes.

Good government is based on citizen engagement and access to information. Our city has a tradition of civic participation. I will work to find new ways to make information more available to citizens to enhance participation.

Substantial investments have been made in electronic record-keeping systems. More timely and detailed information about public safety, public works projects, code enforcement and community planning can and should be available to the public.

Work sessions at the Community Center are not broadcast, yet many important discussions take place. Within the next two years, we need to find a way to broadcast these sessions.

Council expanded from five to seven members in 2009. Council should split the responsibility for work sessions and use working groups or taskforces with citizens

to gather information on complex topics. I think this would improve the quality of work sessions.

Important objectives are not necessarily accomplished in two years. Councilmembers should think beyond two-year election cycles to focus on broader goals. Success in achieving objectives comes through persistence, hard work and patience.

Rodney Roberts

At the recent candidates' night at Greenbriar, I was approached by a young man who asked me what I would do about the basketball court at Mandan Road. He said he liked to play basketball and wanted to play at the Mandan court but couldn't because the City had removed the hoops. I told him I was aware that the hoops had been removed because a few people had misused the area. I also said that I had already protested the removal of the hoops and I promised him I would do my best to have them restored. Instead of removing the recreation facilities that Greenbelt residents of all ages need and deserve, we need to increase the size of our police patrol squad and provide police patrols at whatever level is necessary to protect our neighborhoods and the recreation areas that are an integral part of them.

I would also like to move forward with the plan to expand the Springhill Lake Recreation

Center. This project has been on hold since 2005. There should be enough money in the "Greenbelt West Fund" to accomplish this project.

Also, I want to see the proposed Secrecy law defeated once and for all. There's nothing more important than to have an open and honest City government. It should not be up to City Staff to determine what is confidential and what is not. To accomplish this goal, I will have to rely on the citizens of Greenbelt, who clearly opposed it, to be active and come to the City council meeting when the proposed law comes back to the Council.

Slavic Food Festival At St. Gregory Nov. 2

St. Gregory of Nyssa Byzantine Catholic Church in Beltsville will hold its annual Slavic Food Festival on Saturday, November 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Eastern European foods including holupki, pirohi, halushki and kolbassi with sauerkraut will be available for eat-in, hot carry-out or frozen carry-out.

Bake sale includes kolacs (walnut, poppyseed, apricot, raspberry and prune/lekvar).

The address is 12420 Old Gunpowder Road Spur. Contact the rectory at 301-953-9323, social hall at 301-776-7929 or www.stgregoryofnyssa.net.

Your Vote IS Your Voice!

Re-elect Judith F. 'J' Davis *Always* "COMMITTED TO COMMUNITY"



Questions? Concerns? Contact J at Citizens4J@aol.com or visit our website at www.citizens4jdavis.org



Condolences to the family and friends of Patrick Brannan, 76, who died October 11, 2013. Special sympathy to his wife, Cathie, the president of the Greenbelt Golden Age Club. A funeral Mass was offered on October 15 at St. Hugh of Grenoble church, ending as a bagpiper played to honor the native Scotsman.

Our sympathy to the family, friends and congregants of Rev. Herbert Russell Jones of Research Road who died October 18, 2013.

We were sorry to learn of the death of former resident and Greenbelt boy Robert (Bob) Glenn Hogan, who died in Atlanta July 3, 2013.



Hubert Robinson receives his awards from Rep. Steny Hoyer.

Congressman Steny Hoyer on October 21 recognized Hanover Parkway resident Hubert Robinson for service in World War II, presenting him with a Silver Battle Star, Victory Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, Honorable Service Lapel Button and Marksman Badge for his service as a corporal during World War II. Hoyer acknowledged the awards were long overdue, thanking Robinson, who served in Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe. Corporal Robinson, belated though it is, we thank you for your service.

It was nice to see Mary Anne McDonald Papale of Pittsburgh when she stopped in town recently on her way to the 45th anniversary of Regina High School's class of 1968, held in Annapolis. She was the youngest child and only daughter of the late Charles T. McDonald, city manager of Greenbelt from 1948 to 1962. Lifelong friends Mary Anne, Karen McFarland and Kathy Labukas all grew up in Greenbelt and graduated in 1968 from Regina, which was located in Adelphi. The school closed in 1989.

To send information for "Our Neighbors," email us at newsreview@verizon.net or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

— Kathleen McFarland

Genealogical Society To Meet on Nov. 6

The Prince George's County Genealogical Society will meet Wednesday, November 6 at 7 p.m. in the New Carrollton Municipal Building, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway. After a brief business meeting, Heather Olsen will present "Why Can't I Find My Ancestors In The Census?"

All are welcome to attend. For additional information see www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdpgcgs or call 301-262-2063. The society meets on the first Wednesday of the month from September through June, except for January.

GHI Board of Directors Discusses Transfer Fees at Meeting

by Mike Persley

A question was brought up at the October 3 Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) Board of Directors meeting about the high cost of GHI members moving from one home to another.

Speaking in the visitors and members portion of the meeting, Angella Foster, who with her husband has lived in a one-bedroom unit in GHI for almost six years, wondered why the cost of moving from one GHI home to another is only \$25 cheaper than the cost for new members.

"I mean I love it here and I don't want to leave," she said, "but I almost feel like I'm being punished."

Foster and her husband recently welcomed a baby girl and plan to move soon to one of GHI's three-bedroom homes. To do so requires them to pay a \$900 fee to sell their previous home plus the new membership fee for the new home, given at a discounted rate of \$475 from the \$500 charged for new members. The steep cost is clearly difficult for a young couple with a new baby, Foster said.

"We've been good members in good standing for almost six years," Foster said. "It seems like they would make it easier."

Susan Ready, president of the Board of Directors of GHI, seemed open to looking into the matter, but said she was not sure what could be done.

"What happens when members speak at that time is we don't have all of the information in front of us," she said. "So it's something we will have to go and look at."

Ready said the topic would come up again at the weekly Finance Committee meeting.

The finance committee will have to look at whether there are alternative ways to raise the money to pay staff other than charging a membership fee to established members moving from one house to another.

The current fee pays for items such as the member's employment verification, credit and background checks, document preparation, lock changes and other services. It's not clear now that these items can be paid for without the fee, said Ready.

"It's a good idea to look into what the actual cost to the co-op is and align that with members who are moving from one house to another," said Steve Skolnik, vice-president of GHI. "But the real costs have to be identified and we have to look at how that would affect other members of the co-op."

Foster, the artistic director for

Alight Dance Theater and director of studio dance at the Community Center, hopes that she can make it easier for others in the future.

"If we changed this [policy],

we would still have to pay the fee. But we want the co-op to stay good and strong and it isn't a good policy for the kind of community we have," she said.

Vote for City Council and Re-elect Leta Mach

Serving YOU on City Council since 2003



- ✓ Experienced
- ✓ Involved
- ✓ Committed
- ✓ Knowledgeable

Building on the Spirit of Greenbelt ... and Expanding the Possibilities

Questions/Comments? Call me at 301-345-8105 or e-mail leta.council@verizon.net

Visit my website, <http://www.themachs.net>

By authority of Alla Lake, Treasurer

Work Together ♦ Respect the Past ♦ Build the Future



He's listening...
Trust him to work for you

- Experienced and involved
- Creative and Open-minded
- Working for a Stronger Greenbelt

Re-elect Emmett V. Jordan Greenbelt City Council

Working for a Stronger Greenbelt

I will continue to push for focused planning and follow through by Council and Staff to achieve the community and economic development goals of residents. Increasing efficiency and growing our local economy are ways to maintain quality municipal services without compromising the City's future. We must do more than rely on the County or State to steer our progress.

Promoting Open Government

Citizen engagement and access to information are the basis of Good government. I will work to enhance civic participation and to make information more available to residents. Council Work sessions held at the Community Center are currently not televised. They should be broadcast, so residents can conveniently follow issues. Public meetings must be conducted in a way that will encourage involvement. I will push to put resident issues first on Council agendas and work to accomplish more in shorter meetings.

Streamlining City Operations

Last year, I helped to launch an "organizational assessment" study to look at the structure of city departments and staff job functions. Its recommendations should lead to common sense decisions that improve city operations and possibly cut costs.

Our citizens are Greenbelt's greatest asset. Volunteers multiply what government can do. I will work to find ways to use the skills of volunteers in substantial and meaningful ways. Good staff supervision is required, but is a prudent investment of time.

"My role as a Councilmember is to be prepared for meetings, to consider alternative approaches to problems, and then to work with the rest of council to choose the best course of action. I listen to the views of residents, stakeholders, other Council members, and do research. In the end, my job is to make decisions that are in the best interest of our community".

I am listed # 3 on the ballot. Please cast a vote for me.

By Authority of Sylvia J. Lewis, Treasurer



Council Debates What to Do about Illegal Condo Rentals

by Diane Oberg

The item on the agenda of the October 14 regular meeting of the Greenbelt City Council looked innocuous enough: "Review of County Bill 89-2012 and Applicability to Greenbelt." It turned instead into a wide-ranging, sometimes fiery discussion of the problem of illegal rentals in the city and what could be done about them.

In the end, council unanimously approved the staff recommendation to refer the matter to the staff themselves for further review with a report due by December 31. The issue will also be referred to the Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB), which may not happen itself until the staff report is complete. Afterward, Mayor Judith Davis said, council will hold a worksession on the topic.

CB-89-2012 authorized the county to deny a license for a rental unit if the owner of that unit is delinquent on homeowner association (HOA) fees. City Manager Michael McLaughlin, in his agenda comments, wrote about a number of requests from city HOAs that the city adopt similar authority. While the county bill focused on the authority to deny licenses, council discussion revealed that unlicensed rentals may be at least as much of an issue.

Several Issues

A number of issues arose during council discussion: 1) collection of delinquent fees, 2)

unlicensed rentals, 3) the county exemption of rentals to relatives from licensing requirements and the related issue of who is a relative and 4) to what extent rental issues are the responsibility of the city rather than the HOAs.

Delinquent Fees

It is difficult for HOAs to collect from delinquent homeowners. Through legal action, they must obtain a lien on the property. Then they must attempt to collect. Councilmember Silke Pope, who is also the president of the Belle Point HOA, said that after the HOA invests in the legal costs and time to obtain the lien, they may not be able to collect. In that case, they have to request and pay for a sheriff's sale.

Davis commented that some delinquent homeowners know how to work the system and can delay action on their cases for years, resulting in large losses to the HOA. In some cases, HOAs may be awarded legal fees in the judgment. That is not certain, however, and can happen long after the HOA has paid the fees.

McLaughlin noted that the city tells people to notify code enforcement of illegal renters, and in response, Councilmember Edward Putens described himself as angry. He said he has told the code enforcement staff about such cases but no one is doing anything about people renting out properties without a license. He said that once the HOA has a lien, the process has nothing to do with HOA covenants and that the city needs to enforce the code.

Unlicensed Rentals

Putens, who asked that this item be put on the agenda, said that the many unlicensed rentals in the city affect the livability of neighborhoods and that the lack of adequate response to unlicensed rentals leads others to question why they should bother to get a license since others don't. The challenges of combating such unlicensed rentals was the focus of much of the rest of the discussion.

Exemption for Relative

One of the biggest challenges appeared to be the exemption for relatives. County law exempts landlords from the requirement to obtain a license when they rent to a parent, child, sibling, grandchild, grandparent or in-law. However, there is no mechanism whereby the relation of a landlord and tenant can be verified and landlords do not need to take any action to claim the exemption.

Putens described a situation where, in conversations, the tenant said the landlord was not a relative but when the city investigated, the landlord claimed the tenant was a relative. Putens asked for a commitment from council to do something about this problem.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts, who had sought to raise this issue earlier in the meeting, called on council to close this loophole.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan asked if the city could find a way to have landlords provide an affidavit that the renter is a relative. Roberts suggested that this may not completely solve the

issue, asking what would happen if the landlord then claims that the family member is not paying rent.

The county law's definition of a relative was also an issue. Davis thought the definition was quite broad but Jordan had the opposite concern. The city has a very diverse population and many alternative families, he said, and the law's list of relations may be too narrow. Pope and Councilmember Konrad Herling shared this concern.

City Solicitor John Shay raised the possibility that if the city passed a law comparable to CB-89, it could close the loophole. McLaughlin said he would work with Shay and City Solicitor Robert Manzi to determine if the city could remove the exemption.

City Concerns

Putens asked whether an illegal rental is really an HOA covenant issue or a city code enforcement issue. Shay said the city could file an enforcement action in the Circuit Court of Maryland against landlords who do not obtain a license.

Pope, after describing the difficulty of collecting delinquent fees, asked what the city could do, right now, to help communities with illegal renters.

On the issue of addressing unpaid fees, Shay relayed the concerns of Manzi who in a memo to council had reminded them that "the covenants that govern a property are a private contract regarding which the city is neither a party or a third-party beneficiary and therefore, has no standing to enforce." Further,

he asked that council consider whether becoming involved in enforcement of private covenants to any degree would establish a bad precedent.

Herling asked if passing such a law would affect the city planning staff. If so, the city would be taking the role of the county and might require additional staff.

Jordan noted that the new county law seems difficult to manage and time-consuming to enforce.

Next Steps

Councilmember Leta Mach noted that the illegal rental situation was multi-faceted, very emotional and very hard to enforce. She asked that the staff recommendation be expanded to include referrals to CRAB, city HOAs and condominium owners associations.

Timing is an issue, Davis said, adding that council will need a worksession once they get the staff report. This review needs to be completed prior to next year's budget process to ensure the city has code enforcement inspectors.

Howl-oween Activity At Beltway Plaza

On Thursday, October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m. Beltway Plaza will be celebrating Halloween with fun for mall visitors.

From 6 to 7 p.m. there will be trick-or-treating at participating mall stores.

Following that at Center Court there will be a costume contest with judging from 7 to 8 p.m. and prizes distributed.

**With Investments, it is said,
"Past performance is *no guarantee*
of future results."**



**With Konrad Herling, it is said,
Past performance is *a prelude* to
future results."**

Since 2003, Konrad's performance, as both a Council member and a citizen, has resulted in a more enriched and unified Greenbelt.

RECOMMENDATION: The City operate a "Welcome Wagon"

RESULT: A "Welcome Wagon" packet was approved by Council in 2009. Currently, packets are distributed to new Greenbelt residents informing them about opportunities provided by the City and community organizations. The next step is to greet new Greenbelters in person and materials in Spanish.

RECOMMENDATION: The City hold "Visioning Sessions" based on experience with organizing community planning 1985 Charrette of the Roosevelt Center.

RESULT: Visioning Sessions were held in 2008 & 2013, with input from citizens regarding desired goals, with many already adopted by City Council.

RECOMMENDATION: Transportation be a higher priority

RESULT: secured a \$20,000 grant to hold a Transportation Charrette. Worked with Transit Riders United, Metro, and the County to improve bus service; Co-authored the Transportation section of the Environmental Sustainability Framework of the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability.

RECOMMENDATION: The City implement a sustainable economic development strategy; establish an Office of Economic Development.

RESULT: A "coffee" with several business leaders was held as part of an outreach to that community. I am still working to secure greater community support and at least two more votes on Council to move forward.

RECOMMENDATION: Create a New Year's Eve city event when the City Council voted to defund the City sponsored program.

RESULT: Worked with Greenbelt citizens to produce a collaborative celebration, and to mark the end of our 75th Anniversary events.

RECOMMENDATION: Create an International Cultural Festival to celebrate the diversity of Greenbelt residents.

RESULT: Three different events in 2006 that brought approximately 250 people together to learn from and about each other's cultural heritages.

RECOMMENDATION: Produce a cultural program as part of the City's Earth Hour.

RESULT: A program that attracted families to participate in a cultural event celebrating Earth Hour to have a fun electricity-free evening.

If re-elected, I will continue my efforts to accomplish goals in the following areas to bring our community together:

***Community Development, Inclusion, and Diversity ~ Sustainable Economic Development
Expanding the Arts in Greenbelt ~ Health and Public Safety ~ Environmental Stewardship Initiatives***

PLEASE VOTE TO RE-ELECT KONRAD HERLING TO CITY COUNCIL

By authority Trina Coore, Treasurer

Groovy Vegan Festival Brightens Rainy Day

by Brianna Patterson

Despite scattered showers, the Acorns a Go-Go Groovy Vegan Fest provided music, smiles and good vibes at Roosevelt Center on Saturday, October 12.

"Rain, hail, sleet or snow, it doesn't matter to me," said Brenda Harris who came from Upper Marlboro to enjoy the festival with her daughter.

The festival catered to children and adults with a range of events including a hula hoop contest and a magician alongside funky musicians and good food.

One of the bands to grace the stage, Bushmaster featuring Gary Brown, had people dancing to their blues rock sound around the stage.

"I had a great time dancing with strangers and friends," said Crash Jackson from Germantown.

Vendors sold everything from hemp jewelry to henna tattoos to hand-designed Hula-hoops made right on the spot.

Kia Alexander got a massage from Papasa massage therapist Krystal Kaye while her 6-year-old daughter got a henna tattoo.

"I loved the energy," Alexander said. "All ages were having a good time."

"It was very enjoyable, [there were] a lot of smiles," said Kaye observing from her business tent. "There were a lot of kids having a lot of fun."

Kaye felt she was a perfect addition to the events roster. "Since it's all about vegans and wellness, why not massages?" she said.

The festival stayed true to its title, offering attendees a variety of vegan options from food trucks and vendors.

"Who knew Greenbelt had a big vegan festival?" said Sharon Lindblad, owner of The Randy Radish, a vegan food truck based in Virginia.

She said the event is a great way to clear up confusion about vegan food and the culture that surrounds it.

"There's a lot of misinformation about vegan food," she said. "Not everyone who eats vegan is a crazy hippie freak."

Councilmember Emmett Jordan attended the festival and tried the barbecue from The Randy Radish and said it was "pretty tasty."

Jordan was delighted to see the diverse crowd and vendors. He said he supports "anything that draws people to the [Roosevelt] Center."

Acorns a Go-Go Groovy Vegan Fest is the latest new festival to entertain Greenbelt residents in Roosevelt Center. Through inclement weather it still managed to brighten up the day for Greenbelters.

STATE FUNDS

continued from page 1

of electricity only, and renewable energy generation. The proposed policies were based on models provided by the funder and had been reviewed and approved by GreenACES.

Public Works Assistant Director Jim Sterling explained that one goal is to reduce electricity consumption by 15 percent over a five-year period. He said that although the city has the option of going back as far as 2009 to define the period, it will instead use 2012 as the baseline year.

In the renewable energy category, the city's goal is to use 20 percent renewable energy by 2022. Sterling said that unfortunately wind energy does not qualify, although it may in the future if in-state wind power is generated and used by the city.

Solar energy does count and the city has learned through a feasibility study that both the new public works facility and the Springhill Lake Recreation Center are well situated for solar power.

The next step will be to seek funder approval for specific projects. In addition to installation of solar panels at the public works facility and/or at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, two other projects identified by staff include HVAC improvements at the Community Center and lighting efficiency upgrades at the Community Center and the Aquatic and Fitness Center.

GCDC to Meet on this Saturday

On Saturday, October 26 from 2 to 4 p.m. the Greenbelt Community Development Corporation (GCDC) will hold its annual members meeting in the second floor meeting room at the Greenbelt Community Center. The purpose of the GCDC is to enhance the community by improving all aspects of the quality of the life of residents, businesses and visitors.

There will be a presentation by Caitlin McGrath on possible funding and programming options for the historic movie theater in Roosevelt Center. The meeting is open to the public and all those interested in the future of the theater are urged to attend.

Members will elect board members at the meeting and may renew their memberships.

New members may also join at the meeting. For more information, email Barbara Simon at greenbeltdc@gmail.com.

Arboretum Workshop Features Fresh Herbs

The U.S. National Arboretum will host a free workshop on fresh herbs Saturday, October 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. It will be presented by the Herb Society of America and features easy everyday uses for fresh herbs. Attendees can sample fresh herbal jellies, butters and pestos; learn to make aromatic sachets; and pick up creative ideas to beautify the home with fresh herbs during this drop-in demonstration in the National Herb Garden.

The Arboretum is at 3501 New York Avenue, N.E. in Washington, D.C.

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Fresh Lean Beef \$3.79 lb. Boneless Chuck Roast	Ripe or Green Nutritious Bananas 49¢ lb.	Kraft Natural Cheese Chunks Assorted 8 oz. \$2.00	Green's Ice Cream Assorted 1.5 qt. \$3.00	Canadian Frozen Snow Crab Leg Clusters \$6.99 lb.

Grocery Bargains		Customer Appreciation Discount Day		Grocery Bargains	
Kraft Assorted Salad Dressings 8 oz. \$1.00	Green Giant Canne Niblets Corn Le Sueur Peas Assorted 11-15 oz. \$1.00	Wednesday, Oct. 30	5% Discount to ALL customers on ALL purchases (except stamps and gift cards)	Star Kist Solid White Albacore Tuna 5 oz. \$1.00	Swanson Soup Broth Assorted 14.5 oz. \$1.00
Kellogg's Corn Flakes Special K & Rice Krispies 18-24 oz. \$3.00	Peter Pan Peanut Butter Asst. 16.3 oz. \$1.69	Prego Pasta Sauces Asst. 23-24 oz. 3/\$5.00	Nabisco Assorted Chips Ahoy or Oreo Cookies 18-20 oz. \$3.99		

Deli	Bakery	Natural & Gourmet	Health & Beauty	Beer & Wine
Deli Gourmet Cooked Ham \$2.99 lb.	Fresh Store Baked Vienna Bread loaf \$1.89	Robert's Pirate Booty Lunch Pack Snacks 6 pk. \$2.99	Hall's Assorted Cough Drops 20-30 pk. \$1.50	Natural Light Beer 6 pk.-12 oz. cans \$4.49
New Yorker Hot Pepper Cheese \$6.99 lb.	Fresh Store Baked Large Kaiser Rolls 6 pk. \$1.75	Teas Tea Iced Tea Assorted 16.9oz. \$1.29	Ensure Ready-to-Drink Nutritional Shake Assorted 6 pk. 8 oz. \$7.99	Black Opal Wines 750 M.L. \$7.99

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf.

Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery

October 11, 5:51 a.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive. Two men approached another man as he was walking to his vehicle. When he tried to run from the area one of the men produced a handgun and threatened him. They punched the man several times and forced him into his own vehicle, where they again assaulted him and demanded money. The man told them he had no money. They then fled on foot. One robber was described as a black man with a light complexion, 5'8" tall, 150 pounds, wearing jeans and sneakers.

Carjacking

October 13, 10:35 p.m., 6000 block Cherrywood Court. A man parked his car and was exiting it when another man approached him, produced a handgun and announced a robbery. He struck the man with the handgun and demanded that he empty his pockets, taking the man's cell phone, wallet and keys. He fled in the man's car, a silver 2001 Acura MDX SUV with Md. tags 7AG8844. The man who was robbed was not injured.

Arrests

October 10, 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace. A 15-year-old Greenbelt youth was arrested for motor vehicle theft and theft after an officer attempted to stop the vehicle for a traffic violation. Instead of stopping, the car was driven a short distance away when three people got out of the car and fled on foot. The youth was arrested and the other two people were not located. Investigation revealed that the vehicle, a 2006 Lincoln Town car, was reported stolen by Laurel police, taken during a burglary. The tag on the vehicle was stolen in Greenbelt. The youth was released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

October 12, 12:15 a.m., 6460 Capitol Drive. Two nonresident men were arrested when officers responded to a report of a disturbance at T.G.I. Friday's. Each man was charged with resisting arrest, failure to obey a lawful order and trespassing. Each also had an additional charge, one man for second degree assault and the other man for disorderly conduct. They were transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

October 15, 10:48 p.m.,

9200 block Springhill Lane. A 57-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with assault after he allegedly struck another person several times during a verbal altercation. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner. The other person was treated on the scene for minor injuries.

Theft

A woman reported that she went into the Exxon station in the 7600 block Greenbelt Road and when she returned to her vehicle she discovered someone broke out the driver's side window and removed her purse, iPad and iPhone.

Burglary

October 11, 1:09 p.m., 9300 block Edmonston Road. A watch, money and clothing were taken.

October 11, 4:15 p.m., 6500 block Lake Park Drive. Two televisions and a laptop computer were taken. Entry was gained by forcing open the front door.

Miscellaneous

October 10, 6:39 p.m., 6200 block Greenbelt Road. A counterfeit 20 dollar bill was used by unknown person(s) at the Wendy's restaurant.

October 11, 2:53 p.m., 6460 Capitol Drive. A credit card left on an unattended table at T.G.I.Friday's was taken. It was used later to purchase merchandise at various locations.

October 8 through October 12. Three nonresidents, two men and one woman, were arrested in separate incidents for multiple alcohol-related violations after traffic stops within city limits.

Vehicle Crime

Three vehicles were stolen. A black 2006 Yamaha motorcycle with Md. tags 30SB78 was taken from the 7900 block Mandan Road. A white 2000 Dodge Caravan with Md. tags M744835 was stolen from the 9100 block Edmonston Road. A tan 4-door 2000 Dodge Intrepid with Md. tag 8BB7658 was stolen from the 6100 block Breezewood Drive.

A 23-year-old nonresident man was arrested and charged with theft after tags reported stolen to the Prince George's County Police Department were found on his vehicle in the 9200 block Edmonston Road. He was released on citation pending trial.

A dashboard was damaged when a navigation/backup camera system was removed from a vehicle parked in the 5700 block Greenbelt Metro Drive.

SIGNS continued from page 1

Improve Signage

In addition, the committee called for improving existing signage to make it more visible. They found that the sign at the police station sits too low to be seen easily and is not clearly illuminated after dark. They requested Art Deco-type signage on the east and south sides of the building itself.

Finally, they recommended that a schedule be established to regularly clear vegetation on both sides of the firehouse driveway so it is visible to drivers approaching from either direction and that the sign be illuminated after dark.

The Advisory Planning Board (APB) Report 2013-5 addresses the sign plan for Franklin Park at Greenbelt Station. In addition to the current approved signage, Franklin Park is requesting approval for two new monument signs, eight street signs, 22 banner signs and four building banner signs (with two in place). The report notes that the current request calls for fewer signs following discussions with city planning staff.

The board recommended that council support the sign plan with four conditions.

These reports will be considered at future council meetings.

Legislation

Council gave final approval to a resolution increasing the pay for election judges to \$225 and election clerks to \$175. One judge and up to four clerks are authorized for each of Greenbelt's five precincts. The resolution also authorizes up to six clerks to count absentee and early voting ballots, with each being paid \$50.

In addition, a training stipend of \$25 will be paid to each judge and clerk. Finally, the chair and members of the Board of Elections are to be paid \$225 each.

A resolution to give after-the-fact authorization to the Department of Planning and Community Development for a mobile tag reader already purchased and in use for parking enforcement was introduced for first reading. Prior council approval is required for all purchases over \$10,000, although that authorization had not been obtained in this case.

City Manager Michael

McLaughlin told the News Review that this purchase had been discussed and agreed to during budget discussions but that the paperwork to obtain formal council approval had not been completed. The purchase had been made, however, and the lack of formal authorization was then discovered when the city received the invoice.

As is normal for first readings, there was no discussion of this resolution, which will likely be introduced for final passage at the next regular council meeting.

Election Questionnaire

Council approved staff's draft election questionnaire, which will be available at polling places on election day, in the News Review and on the city's website. At the polls, it will look different from what voters are accustomed to. Instead of the single sheet, small-font survey, the new questionnaire will be a 4-page bifold (an 11 x 17 sheet folded in half) with much more white space and larger type. Council suggested various modifications to the survey and gave its approval.

Michael Hartman, while appreciating the city's plans to post the election questionnaire on the web, urged council to have it tested to ensure that it works with assistive technology for the visually impaired and that it complies with section 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Mayor Judith Davis thanked him for bringing this issue to the city's attention. While "we may not get there this year," she said, the city has staff available to help those citizens complete the questionnaire.

Other Actions

Davis presented a proclamation recognizing October as Cooperative Month to representatives from the Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative, the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union, Greenbelt Homes, Inc., the Greenbelt Nursery School, the

New Deal Café, Rapidan Camps and the Greenbelt News Review.

She also presented a proclamation recognizing October 6 through 12 as Nonprofit Awareness Week to representatives of the Greenbelt Foundation and the Human Services Coalition of Prince George's County, which sponsors the Nonprofit Awareness Week.

Council authorized staff to submit two Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications to the county for consideration. One seeks \$118,000 for resurfacing Springhill Drive from Springhill Lane to Edmonston Road; the other \$50,000 is planned for a youth mentoring program for low income city youth.

Assistant City Manager David Moran told council that the amount of funds available for county CDBG grants is largely dependent upon the amount of federal CDBG funding.

Petitions

Bob Snyder, chair of the Forest Preservation Advisory Board, read a response to a letter presented to council by the Executive Committee of the Greenbelt Community Gardens Club during a recent worksession. The board, he said, stands by its report characterizing the recent clearing near the Hamilton Gardens as "unfortunate, unauthorized and careless" and stands by its recommendations.

National Gallery Holds Free Concert Sunday

On Sunday, October 27 at 6:30 p.m. the National Gallery of Art (NGA) will host a free concert by Cappella Romana in the West Garden Court. The performance will feature music based on Byzantine chant. This concert is in honor of "Heaven and Earth: Art of Byzantium from Greek Collections," a new exhibit at NGA.

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Mark Your Calendars for
An Afternoon with the News Review Staff
at the New Deal Cafe
Sunday, November 10
2 to 5 p.m.

Letters to the Editor

a different way. Same with two large dogs running loose over by Lastner Lane and Ridge Road. Backtracked once again and I warned a couple I saw walking that way about the situation. They had a baby in a stroller.

Dog Owners: Please make sure you have your dogs are fenced in and the fence is high enough that the dog cannot escape. If you do not have a fence, please make sure your dog is on a leash. Everyone has a right to use the sidewalks and streets for walking (particularly if no sidewalks are available).

Gail Phillips

THANKS!

A special thank you to Sue Krofchik for her great article about the replacement of electric poles in our town. A huge thank you to all who planned and participated in this important project.

I was personally involved as the pole in front of my house was replaced, which involved moving plants and waiting for a time when the nearby baby birds were no longer in harm's way. Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) staff were wonderful in making sure that communication was clear and that the plants were moved. The C.W. Wright supervisors made sure that my concerns were addressed.

I grew up in the country and remember how difficult it was to dig post holes for fences, plus I know how nearly impossible it is to dig in GHI yards. I was mesmerized by the work – watching the men as they skillfully worked together to replace the poles. To see at least eight men patiently digging the seven-foot holes and installing and re-wiring the poles was amazing. Then, when they were gone, to see they barely left a footprint in the area. They were without a doubt very hardworking men, with so many of them far away from their homes and families for significant periods of time.

It is a blessing to live in a country where we have such a good infrastructure and to have the luxury of making improvements before more serious "inconveniences" arise. There had been a lot of trepidation regarding Pepco's arrival to trim back trees and replace poles and many were involved to ensure a smooth, sensible project.

Thank you to the city council, city staff, GHI staff, folks who showed up at the meetings to discuss the project, Pepco and to the C.W. Wright Company.

Katrina Boverman

Impressions from GHI Candidates Forum

GHI is to be applauded for sponsoring the candidates' forum on Tuesday, October 15 at the Municipal Building.

I learned that the Aquatic and Fitness Center (AFC) was subsidized by our tax dollars. This helps to keep the Center affordable. However, it was other comments that were surprising. It was implied that it is possible for the AFC to increase income by improving the quality of its instructional

staff. Classes at the AFC for swimming and aquatics classes are mostly full each session and a few families are placed on waiting lists. Instructors are hardworking and few patrons have complained about the quality of their work.

It was also noted that people who work there had no place else to go. That too is false. First, the receptionists, inappropriately referred to as "cashiers," are as exploited as McDonald or Wal-Mart workers and are also working out of title. They register patrons for passes or classes, answer telephones, provide the public with information, collect and pass on messages, as well as do cashiering. And they perform their jobs with a smile because they want patrons to feel respected and comfortable, not because they have no place else to go. The reception staff is overdue for a raise and corrected work title. Perhaps a visit to the AFC will help some members of council to correct these false perceptions.

So yes, I found most of the candidates remarks encouraging in some ways, however, a few of them really are disconnected from certain realities that persist in Greenbelt.

Lois Rosado

Editor's Note: Lois Rosado works at the front desk of the Aquatic and Fitness Center.

Toastmasters to Hold Spook-a-thon Oct. 30

The government Toastmasters Club at Beltsville Agricultural Center, which missed two meetings during the furlough, will resume with a special meeting at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 30 – the fifth Wednesday of the month that will be a special Spook-a-thon, with a nod to Halloween for this traditional fifth Wednesday event.

The October 30 meeting will be solely of manual speeches, which are usually called a speak-a-thon. All are invited to attend the free meeting to hear the speeches and see how a spook-a-thon is organized. Speech topics need not be holiday-themed or

macabre.

Those not wishing to speak may volunteer to be timers, evaluators, grammarians or counters. Speakers should inform Toastmaster of the Day Samuel Shen at samshen93@yahoo.com of their name, contact information, manual, project, time limits and title. Attendees are asked to bring trick-or-treat food or drink items to share, such as cheese, apples, crackers, candy, cookies, cider, water or colas.

More information is available at http://arc.toastmastersclubs.org/2013_Spook-a-thon.html.

Patuxent Kids Program To Feature Wolves

On Saturday, November 2 from 10 to 11 a.m. there will be a program on wolves for kids ages 8 to 10 at the Patuxent National Wildlife Visitors Center. Participants will learn where these powerful predators call home and how wolves survive in a pack.

Public programs at Patuxent Research Refuge are free although advance registration is required; call 301-497-5887.

For details visit www.patuxent.fws.gov. The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the B-W Parkway and Rt. 197.



Re-Elect
Silke Pope
for
City Council
November 5, 2013

If re-elected, I will continue to work to:

- Ensure the renovations of the historic Greenbelt Theatre are completed in a timely manner and the Buddy Attick Lake dredging and dam repairs stay on schedule.
- Preserve community programs and services by carefully evaluating our future budget.
- Make quality of life improvements for our citizens.
- Support seniors through services such as "aging in place" and wellness programs.
- Improve public safety by installing traffic calming devices, speed cameras and safer crosswalks to create safe routes to school and to protect pedestrians and cyclists.
- Welcome smart growth and encourage the City to work with an economic development advisor.

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"I always hated to see my teeth when I smiled for pictures because they were so yellow. Even with whiteners I could not get them any whiter. I had porcelain veneers placed on six teeth and couldn't be happier with my white smile now!"

FORUM continued from page 1

economic development, to make city government more open and transparent and to strengthen public safety.

Konrad Herling, seeking reelection, has lived here all but 10 years of his life, he said. He has found the one steadfast thing about Greenbelt is its community spirit. Transportation, in all forms, he said, is one of his key issues. He would like to see safe access between Greenbelt East and West. He also seeks more sustainable economic development, preferring greater utilization of existing facilities over building new ones.

Now seeking a third council term, Pope said she got involved in fighting crime and crime watch while a resident of Springhill Lake. She said she even got involved in chasing after criminals there. She came to realize that decisions that local governments make can help you and affect you immediately.

Putens, longest serving member of council, apologized for his (and Pope's) late arrival at the forum. He spent his allotted time telling about his donation that night to the Greenbelt Museum, as co-executor of the late Sheldon Goldberg's estate, of a set of battle plans for the Normandy invasion during World War II. He said this was one of only 18 such sets.

Leta Mach promised to listen and work hard if reelected, she said. Her goals are to restore the Greenbelt theater, to improve public safety (thinking that getting the FBI headquarters sited here will help with that issue), to continue to work toward cleaning and dredging the lake and repairing its dam, to implement the walking and bicycle trails plan and to work to bring all of the city into one community.

Repeat challenger Bill Orleans said that upon returning to Greenbelt 10 years ago he decided to attend a council meeting and has regularly done so ever since. After watching council, he said he finds that he cannot support any of its members for election except one. His interest is in making a change to the city council.

Rodney Roberts, also seeking reelection, confessed that he once thought of moving to Delaware at age 18 to set up a business. He didn't, however, and hasn't thought about leaving since that time. He asked those in attendance to look at his flyer to see what his goals for the city are.

Current mayor, Judith Davis, appeared in running shoes but not she said, because she was running for office. They were the result of doctor's orders and she hoped to be able to go knocking on doors in another week, she said. In her first election campaign she said she had proclaimed, "Ask me and I will come." She added that she has been attending community meetings and functions ever since.

Noting the antagonism in national politics, she declared Greenbelt is lucky to have a dedicated staff and a hard working council. She said that a new council needs to address the city's aging infrastructure, to

continue to provide the greater amount of services residents seek, even though property assessments are down. She said council should encourage economic development, including obtaining the FBI headquarters facility.

GHI Q & A

The second segment of the forum was the posing of questions to all candidates by Skolnik which had been formulated by a GHI committee.

The first question was "What are you planning to do to decrease reliance on the property tax?"

First to go this time was Davis. She said that much of the budget was based on the property tax. The city looks out for available grants as well, she said. It would be helpful to residents if the city can increase its commercial tax base, she added, and getting the FBI headquarters here would help do that.

Rodney Roberts pledged to keep on doing what he has been doing and keep on voting his conscience. He criticized council for voting to permit developers of the South Core of Greenbelt Station to substitute townhouse development for neighborhood commercial uses. (The developers have contended, however, that commercial development there would not be viable.) He advocated the need to maximize utilization of the commercial space that already exists in the city.

Orleans said there may come a time when residents would welcome a rate increase but not now. He advocated that the city should challenge each appeal by commercial properties of their assessments. He opposes a proposal of the Beltway Plaza owners to build residential units on the rear of the property and to convert the shopping mall into a town center.

Mach said it was important to get to know what people want. Getting the FBI headquarters here, renovating the theater and promoting the geocache trail in the city were ways to economically promote the city, she felt. She also looks forward to seeing the results of an organizational study being done.

Putens advocated equity between residential and commercial property. He said that taxes could be lowered if residents wished to give up some of the services the city now offers.

Herling noted he had been advocating economic development for 10 years. He was pleased that council support for this issue has grown from 20 to 80 percent. It is time for the city to be proactive, not reactive, he said.

Jordan said it was necessary to balance the city's long-term needs and moderate expenses. Growing the city's tax base through economic development would also be helpful.

Because Greenbelt is a very small community, improving the city's tax base is a very challenging project, Pope said. She hopes the FBI will choose the city for its site, which would spur new development. She urged caution in how the city levies taxes.

Stewart advocated improved walkability and bikeability as a means to make the commercial centers more viable. She proposes a greenway to connect the various parts of the city.

Question 2

This question dealt with the fact that many capital projects remained unfunded and uncompleted for many years and asked candidates to comment on the process.

Mach was discouraged at the lack of progress as good projects need to be done, she said. She would go on carefully pursuing their accomplishment.

Orleans felt there was a need to increase the tax rate in order to make more staff time available to undertake the projects. Roberts noted that there were often problems and that it took time for staff to work their way through resolving them. "I want to make sure that every project we do is a quality project and done at reasonable cost," he said.

Davis said part of the problem is that staff is overworked, another part is the time it takes to accomplish a major project and a third is the reluctance of council to raise taxes more than they already are.

Stewart claimed the city got bogged down in how much



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

Judith Davis responds to a question at the Greenbelt Homes' sponsored candidates forum.

projects cost. She criticized the theater project with receiving only one bid and urged greater competition.

Pope said that reduced property assessments had slowed the city's ability to do projects. There are all kinds of things that need to be done, she contended, and they are very expensive.

Jordan noted that capital projects are budgeted differently from operating expenses and that the projects to be undertaken are prioritized with available funds, financing those projects with the highest priority.

Herling agreed that the

planning staff was overworked. He reiterated the need for economic development. However, he expressed concern that the Greenbelt Arts Center bathrooms had been renovated for \$56,000 and that it was to cost many times more than that, he said, to do the Greenbelt Theater. Putens said that city capital projects are prioritized by council and that none are mandated, with the possible exception of repairs to Greenbelt Lake and its dam.

Greenbelt West

Question 3 was "What positive

See FORUM, page 13

**Tuesday November 5
Or vote early at Franklin Park this weekend**

**RE-ELECT
ED PUTENS**



**THE FBI in
GREENBELT ?**

**I have pushed hard for revitalization in Greenbelt West.
We have made some progress, but that promised
high-class commercial development near Metro has not
happened. Plan B is a federal agency headquarters in that
location.**

MY PRIORITIES:

**Continue our strong efforts to bring the FBI to
Greenbelt. The FBI needs to move. Greenbelt
would be an ideal and welcoming city.**

**Having the FBI in Greenbelt would have a huge
economic impact, including new housing, new
businesses and customers, and higher tax
revenues. All of Greenbelt would benefit.**

-- STILL WORKING FOR YOU! --

Authority: John Winfrey, Treasurer

FORUM continued from page 12

and negative impacts do you anticipate from new development in Greenbelt West?"

"Potentially they are very good, if we are successful in getting the FBI built by a private developer," Putens opined. He noted that if that were the case, the facility would bring in added tax revenues for 25 years while requiring few services.

Herling added that getting the FBI would bring a number of positive results, such as some employees living locally, and greater utilization of public transportation. He was concerned, however, about potential increase in traffic on Greenbelt Road and other area roads.

Jordan supported the other two and thought it would help to upgrade parts of the city but noted that the city had no control in the making of the site decision.

Pope opined that the FBI relocation to Greenbelt would have more positive than negative results: economic growth will follow, the Beltway Plaza will upgrade and Franklin Park will have even greater positive development taking place than is already being done.

But Stewart, as an environmentalist, is torn between the positive aspects of such changes and her belief that there will be growth in urban sprawl. The city needs to look at the traffic pattern resulting from such development, she said.

Davis noted that the new FBI facility is still years away, as the government is only now in the site selection process. The density of the South Core of Greenbelt Metro Station is necessary, she said, in order to make the development work. She hopes there will be a community outreach to new residents of this planned development underway.

Roberts also felt the FBI facility coming to Greenbelt would be a positive thing but he said he doesn't know if that will happen. He reiterated his concern about apartments being built to the rear of the Beltway Plaza.

Orleans was ambivalent about the FBI coming to Greenbelt. He felt the North Core was the wrong site for it; it should be located on the South Core, he said. He opposed it being located on Beltsville Agricultural Research Center property.

Mach said whether or not new development is positive or negative depends on the people. She feels the city needs to reach out and let newcomers know what Greenbelt is about. She is pleased that a co-op nursery school is being organized in Greenbelt West at Franklin Park.

Provide for Youth

The last question posed by the committee was "How can Greenbelt provide for youths and particularly for those teens who may not go to college?"

Stewart noted that her husband was working with members of the Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) honor society during the Labor Day Festival and was impressed with them.

Pope felt that there was a need for more programs like the Butterfly Garden where youths gain hands-on experiences. Teens

should be encouraged to go on to trade schools, she said. She likes the Capital One program offered at Parkdale High School.

Jordan felt it was important for young people to have more places to go and that there should be more after-school programs. He is impressed with Club 125 recently opened in Roosevelt Center and felt that homeowner associations could offer more programs for teens.

Herling would like to see a teen club come back to Greenbelt and would urge trade unions to offer more training opportunities. Working for Greenbelt Public Works had been a great opportunity for him, he said. There is a problem, however, in trying to dictate what kids should be, Putens said. He didn't think he would amount to anything, he said, when he was a youth.

All youths are different, Mach said. Therefore you need a multitude of programs she noted that the Youth Advisory Committee had recently recommended nine programs.

Orleans admitted he didn't know how to engage youth – or adults. He would like to have more programs offered but noted there were not enough grants available.

Roberts felt it important for kids to have an opportunity to work (and be able to have summer jobs). He said he had learned a work ethic when he was young.

Jordan noted that the city has interns and has utilized special-needs students. There is a need to work with teens to provide more opportunities, he said.

Audience Questions

Ed Fallon, a member of the Peace and Justice Coalition, said that making contact with young people in the Franklin Park apartments was not simple. What would the candidates do for youths there? he asked.

Pope noted that there were various programs taking place at the Springhill Lake Elementary School at which she works. "There are a lot of struggles going on," she said, "but we at the school are working hard to help." While a work-in-progress, many programs are being offered, she said. Roberts thought it was important for residents there to be able to have a home of their own. He thought that maybe half the project should be condominiums.

Putens said it was a complicated matter and that we need to avoid imposing our views on others but rather work on a person-to-person basis.

Stewart supports the co-op nursery school being organized there, she said. She added that we need to keep hearing the ideas from people.

Mach made a plea for doing cooperatives, noting that the key is that members make their own decisions. "You cannot impose your desires on someone else," she said, noting that she is a resource to the leader of the new co-op. Davis noted that some residents have low-paying jobs, they lack good transportation and that some speak another language. She would like to have a community center close by to the residents.

Herling said the problem was greater than just Franklin Park;

65 percent of Greenbelt residents live in apartments. He is working to establish the Welcome Wagon, which will be going door-to-door to meet people.

Orleans said the problem was not with the residents, but with the owners. He said the city should be working with the owners.

Aquatic Center

Lois Rosado expressed the view that for the next fiscal year, the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center should be self-sustaining. She asked what council could do to increase its revenues.

Jordan admitted that "We could be a little smarter in running the program, but we do need it."

Stewart noted that there were high rates of childhood asthma and if a different salt-based system were used, that would help people with respiratory problems. She noted that another pool known to her sold ice cream to kids during adult swim breaks.

Roberts felt that paying more money for instructors would help bring in more people. Putens said that no recreation facility paid for itself and that it would continue to require tax support. Herling noted that the city's current fees drew people to the pool from other communities.

Special Needs

Shirley Middleton noted that a lot of people can't drive because they are visually impaired. How should the city deal with handicapped persons during times of emergency?

Herling noted that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Agency did provide transportation by appointment for persons with handicaps.

Mach said that everyone needed to be prepared to remain in shelter during emergencies and they should get to know their neighbors.

Davis said that the Metropolitan Washington Council



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

Lois Rosado asks candidates what can be done to make the Aquatic and Fitness Center self supporting.

of Governments (COG) had been dealing with emergency situations. She noted that they had first dealt with mobile populations, then with pets and were only now dealing with persons having special needs.

Pope thought the matter should be referred to the city's Public Safety Advisory Committee. She feels there should be stickers on doors where handicapped persons reside.

Orleans felt that city personnel should have a sense of where people with special needs lived.

Roberts noted that the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad regularly drilled at Green Ridge House and that these efforts probably should be expanded.

Bike Access

Michelle Cavigelli was interested in getting better bicycle access to Berwyn Heights.

Davis thought that implementing the proposed Advisory Planning Board Bike and Trail Plan would improve accessibility, as did Mach.

Jordan would like to see better accommodation for bicycles on Kenilworth Avenue, not just to Berwyn Heights, but to the proposed Purple Line station in Riverdale Park. Orleans expressed support for green streets, while Herling felt council had to be more proactive. Stewart said you needed to ride a bike to understand the problem and that council should talk more to cyclists.

Pension Costs

Molly Lester asked about the significant amount of pension plan liability obligated by the city. Should the city be looking at alternate retirement plans?

Orleans said he believed the city should consider a set plan with employer and employee contributions. He also said he was not satisfied with the city's handling of the unfunded pension liabilities.

Herling said he was concerned about the impact on current employees, noting that older plans provide better benefits. "Would we be asking city employees to receive lower benefits?" he asked.

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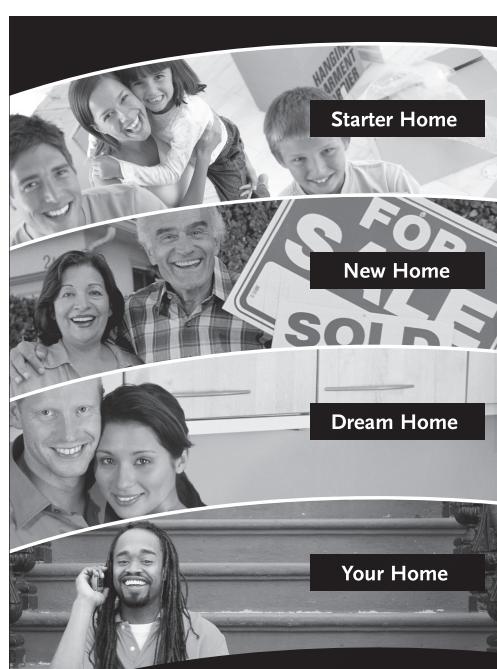
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Election 2013

Citizens Take Advantage Of Early Voting Option

by Cierra McDonald

Election signs lined the entrance toward Schrom Hills Park in Greenbelt East as early-birds slowly arrived to cast their votes for city council.

Saturday morning was fairly brisk for walkers on the park's trail, for election workers preparing for the day ahead, for officials running to fix their signs at a fair distance and for residents who came to vote early.

Many early voters were pleased with the time, day and location for early voting this year.

"I'm glad to see early voting and to see it so close to home," said Carol Brown.

Brown, who has two daughters, has been living in the Greenbelt area for over 15 years.

Her main concerns have involved her own wellbeing and that of her daughters.

"I want our elected officials to continue working to keep crime down so that you feel safe," she said. "Education is very important to me and that it is backed by our elected officials. So I want to see that continued also," Brown said.

Many of the early voters did not disclose whom they had voted for.

A handful, however, named whom they had voted for but many shared the general thought that the incumbents more than likely will win re-election.

"I love Emmett. I voted for him and I voted for Rodney Roberts . . . I think Judy, Emmett, and Rodney are sure to win," said Suze Marley.

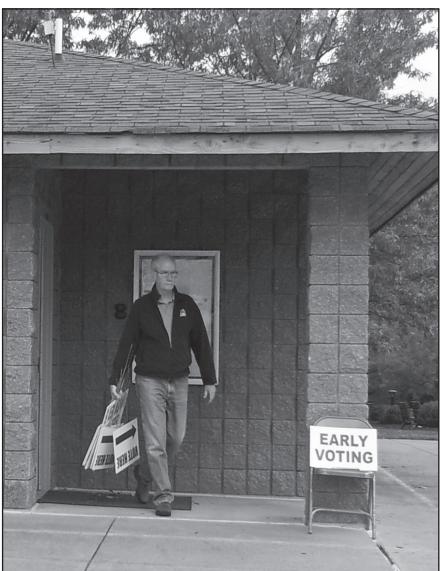


PHOTO BY CIERRA McDONALD

City Manager Michael McLaughlin assists in setting up for early voting at Schrom Hills Park.

One resident, Deborah Bustin, voiced her concerns about the lack of businesses in the area.

Bustin also noted the lack of sidewalks within Greenbelt and how it has hindered her and her son's way of traveling.

The roads divide the city and people are trying to get to the shopping centers. Then suddenly there is no sidewalk and they're in the streets, which freaks me out as a driver and as a walker," she said.

Bustin, whose son bikes, expressed fears for his safety when he is riding and is forced to merge into traffic because the sidewalk ends.

As they prepared to cast their votes, these early voters did not hesitate to voice their civic concerns.

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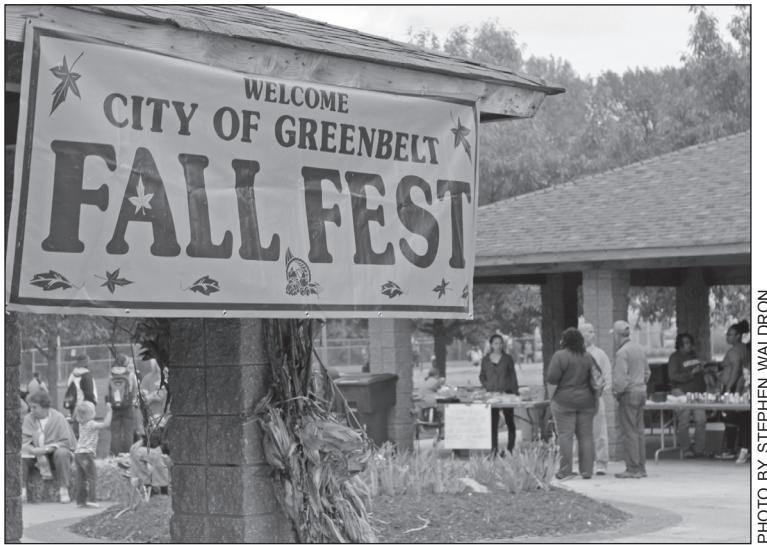


PHOTO BY STEPHEN WALDRON

People gathered to celebrate the season at the annual Greenbelt Fall Fest October 19.

Fall Festival Features Music, Food and Fun

by Stephen Waldron

Schrom Hills Park was overcast and a little rainy on Saturday afternoon, October 19, but Greenbelt residents still came out to celebrate at the city's annual Fall Fest.

It was a chance for people to enjoy live music and food. A tractor-trailer also offered hay rides around the perimeter of the festival and deeper into the woods behind the park.

The festival seemed popular with the families of Greenbelt, who let their children run around the pumpkin patch or play in the inflatable moon bounce.

The event was also used as a campaign opportunity. Promotional signs for city council candidates lined the entrance to the festival and tables were set up inside the festival with information on early voting and how to register to vote in upcoming elections.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan was talking to area residents and organizations provided information at booths around the park. Jordan said that with so many community events scheduled at Roosevelt Center, he appreciates the decision to hold the festival at Schrom Hills Park.

"It's a chance for people from all over to come to Greenbelt East and celebrate Fall," Jordan said.

This wasn't always the case. According to festival coordinator Andrew Phelan, the festival was moved to Schrom Hills Park when it grew too big to stay at its original location on the Community Center Lawn.

This is Phelan's second year as Fall Fest coordinator and he said the turnout was lower than normal because of the weather. Still, he was happy with how the event went and its impact in the Greenbelt community.

"We want to provide a day of fun activities, free of charge," Phelan said.

The only cost to visitors was for hot dogs and hamburgers at the concession stand, cooked by members of the Babe Ruth baseball leagues and the Girl Scouts.

The festival was also an opportunity for local groups to engage with the community. Stephanie Powell was attending the event for the first time to represent Greenbelt CARES and handed out flyers and talked with festival goers.

"I love it," Powell said. "I love the atmosphere and

everybody is friendly."

It did start to rain about halfway through the festival but it did not seem to affect the crowd. People milled around to decorate pumpkins and enter raffles that happened throughout the day.

Live music was provided by country band "The Knuckle Dusters." Equipped with a stand-up bass, violin and a banjo among other instruments, the group played at the festival entrance.

Scott Speary is the lead singer and he also plays acoustic guitar and harmonica. He and his son, who plays bass in the band, are originally from Mercersburg, Pa. and made their first trip to Greenbelt for the Fall Fest.

Speary said he enjoyed the low-key festival with so many families around.

He said that with the relaxed atmosphere, he couldn't think of a better way to celebrate fall.

"What else would you rather be doing on a Saturday afternoon?" he said.

Phelan said that in the future, he would like to introduce some new elements to the festival — more games for the kids, but also some bigger attractions.

"We've been thinking about a mechanical bull," Phelan said.

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Upcoming Events At New Deal Café

Thursday, October 24 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays midday melodies from noon to 2 p.m. The Songwriter's Association of Washington Open Microphone Session is from 7 to 9 p.m. On Friday, October 25 pianist John Guernsey will play classical and jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., followed from 8 to 11 p.m. by headliners Hard Swimmin' Fish headlines with rockin' blues.

Saturday, October 26 Greg Meyer's Community Jazz Jam is from 1 to 5 p.m. Guernsey plays up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., followed by the Chromatics harmonizing on astronomically-correct a capella songs from 8 to 11 p.m. Sunday, October 27 the weekly deaf brunch discussion is from 10:30 to noon; the Not 2 Cool Jazz Trio plays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. From 5 to 8 p.m. there will be a celebration of the 10 year anniversary of the Greenbelt Forest Preserve. It's a celebration of how Greenbelt saved its Green Belt and created the Forest Preserve, as well as an opportunity to honor those who worked so hard to save Greenbelt's woods. All are invited.

ACE Grant Proposal Deadline Is Nov. 1

The City of Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) solicits applications for the ACE Grants Program from Greenbelt schools and their parent-teacher organizations.

The grants are intended to enhance or enrich school-based activities. Proposals can be up to \$500 each for projects or purchases between February 15, 2014, and the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

The six ACE core schools and their parent-teacher organizations are eligible. Proposals must be received by Friday, November 1 by 5 p.m. at the Greenbelt CARES office. Late proposals are not accepted.

Additional information is available at <http://www.greenbeltd.gov/>, click on "Government," then "Boards and Committees," then "Advisory Committee on Education" and scroll to the bottom of the page.

Election 2013

Nine Candidates for Seven Slots in Greenbelt Election

by Mary Moien

Four years have now passed since Greenbelt increased the size of its city council from five to seven members. The same seven councilmembers have served for the two 2-year terms and all will be running again. They are Judith F. Davis, Rodney M. Roberts, Edward V. J. Putens, Leta M. Mach, Konrad E. Herling, Emmett Jordan and Silke Pope. Former candidate William Orleans and newcomer Susan Stewart will join the incumbents on the ballot.

Voter Statistics

At the close of voter registration this year, 12,141 city residents are eligible to vote in the election, a number very similar to those registered in 2011 and 2009.

For a number of years the old

Greenbelt East precinct 13 had the largest number of eligible voters. Several elections ago, that precinct was divided in two — precinct 13 (Greenbriar) and precinct 18 (Turning Point). Now all five precincts have a relatively similar number of registered voters.

For 2013 Greenbelt Center, precinct 3, has the largest number of eligible voters at 2,837, followed by precinct 18 with 2,543. Precinct 18 (Turning Point) posted a 21 percent increase in registered voters over 2011 while precincts 8 (Franklin Park, formerly Springhill Lake) and 6 (North End) have relatively large decreases in registered voters. All precinct statistics are shown in the table below.

City Registration Figures

(As of October 21, 2013)

Precinct	October 2009	October 2011	October 2013	Change 2011-13
3-Center	2,787	2,781	2,837	+2.0%
6-North End	2,297	2,331	2,249	-3.6%
8-Franklin Park	2,413	2,188	1,993	-8.9%
13-Greenbriar	2,541	2,548	2,519	-1.1%
18-Turning Point	2,097	2,104	2,543	+20.8%
TOTAL	12,135	11,952	12,141	+1.6%

Faculty Musicians to Perform as Trio

University of Maryland faculty artists David Salness, violin; Evelyn Elsing, cello; and Mayron Tsong, piano; will join forces to perform Beethoven's "Ghost Trio" (in D major, Op. 70, No. 1) and Dvořák's Dumky Trio (Piano Trio No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 90) in a free concert in the Gildehorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts

Center at 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 2. In honor of the centennial of British composer Benjamin Britten's birth, the program also includes his Sonata in C, Op. 65 for cello and piano.

Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis, beginning at 1:30 p.m. For more information, visit claricesmithcenter.umd.edu or call 301-405-2787.

Slavic Food Festival and Bake Sale

Featuring
Eastern European ethnic foods:
Holupki, Pirohi, Haluški
Kielbasi & Sauerkraut

Bake Sale:
Including "our own" Kolachi/Kolács:
(nut, poppyseed, lekvar/prune, apricot, and raspberry)
Plus a wide selection of cakes, pies, cookies,
And many other 'sweet treats'

Raffle

1st Prize: \$500
2nd Prize: \$250
plus
4 additional prizes
Door prizes every hour

St. Gregory of Nyssa
Byzantine Catholic Church

12420 Old Gunpowder Road Spur
Beltsville, MD 20705

Saturday, November 2nd, 2013

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Call for info: (301) 953-9323 or (301) 776-7929